

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

May 16, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Ben Babin, Jerry Thibeau, David Hoover, Willie George Lee, Terry Louque, Anthony Rouchon, Larry Thomas, Don Thompson, Kenneth "Wade" Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Burrell Carter, James Little

MEMBERS ENTERED MEETING AT: Lionel Bailey 6:10 pm, Tamiara Wade 6:15 pm

ALSO PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Babin.
2. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items:
4. Minutes
The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Rouchon to approve the April 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented.
5. Financial Statement Report:
 - Hoover presented to the Board the April 2017 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Thompson to approve the April 2017 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
 - Public Hearing – Proposed Administrative Budget of 2017/18. The floor was open to Public Comments. As there were no public comments the floor was closed to public comments. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Lee to adopt the Administrative Budget of 2017/18, as presented.
6. Report by Executive Director:
 - Discussed that federal funds are needed to continue construction of the Comite River Diversion Canal Project.
 - ARBC Commissioner Lionel Bailey entered the meeting at this time, 6:10 pm.
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Rouchon to amend Resolution 1094, a Resolution authorizing the ARBC President, or ARBC Executive Director, to sign any and all documents, agreements, permits, rights-of-entry and any other instruments on behalf of the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District in furtherance of the delivery of lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal area improvements "LERRD's" in connection with the Comite River Diversion Project, East Baton Rouge Parish.
 - ARBC Commissioner Tamiara Wade entered the meeting at this time, 6:15 pm.
 - Contract between ARBC and Bob Jacobsen: The Board unanimously approved a motion by Bailey, second by Rouchon to approve \$20,000 from administrative funds, to develop an Inundation Map/August 2016 flood.
 - DOTD Report – USACE is currently reviewing the appraisal for Tract 39/Beechgrove Farms (John Barton), and the counteroffer made by Mr. Bourque for the Bourque property that includes an increase of \$15K to \$203K. For the McHugh Land Company properties (Tract 41 and M3-80) the owner has signed the sale and it has been delivered to ARBC for signature. Tract M3-115 (Leonard Blanchard) is in closing, and the check was delivered to the seller today. These are all of the currently active properties. USACE legal is continuing to work on the compensability determinations for those utilities located on the west side of US 61. DOTD's utility coordination contractor, Cardno, has completed locating the AT&T utilities on the east side of US 61, and is working with the utilities to complete their information needed for approval of an Engineering Consultant Agreement.
7. ARBC Legal Counsel:
 - Discussed Tract 39 property in regard to mineral rights, and reserving a drill site.
 - Discussed HB 1 and HB 2 along with recent attempts by Representative Hodges in requesting alternative funding for the federal funds needed for the CRDC Project.
8. Old Business: None
9. New Business
 - Adopt the millage rate(s) for the tax year 2017: Resolution 1133. As there were no public comments, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:
YEAS: Ben Babin, David Hoover, Jerry Thibeau, Lionel Bailey, Willie George Lee, Terry Louque, Anthony "Tony" Rouchon, Larry Thomas, Don Thompson, Tamiara Wade, Kenneth "Wade" Welborn
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Burrell Carter, James "Jimmy" Little
 - CPA David Shoptaugh – Contract Renewal: The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Thompson to approve three-year renewal of said contract between ARBC and CPA David Shoptaugh, as presented.
10. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Lee to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

/s/ Ben Babin

Ben Babin, ARBC President

Date: June 27, 2017

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau

Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary